

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

**DOCKWEILER STATE BEACH
GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT
(AQUATIC YOUTH CENTER)**



Prepared by:

Los Angeles County
Department of Beaches and Harbors

June 2004

PREFACE

This General Plan Amendment for Dockweiler State Beach proposes to augment the program elements authorized within this state park unit by including a beach-oriented youth center, as described in the following sections. The Dockweiler Youth Center would complement the existing uses found at Dockweiler State Beach and enhance public use along an underutilized portion of the beach. The Dockweiler Youth Center would provide a permanent home for the training, storage, and administrative uses for the Los Angeles County Water, Awareness, Training, Environmental, and Recreation (W.A.T.E.R.) Program, which reaches thousands of at-risk youth each year.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
1.0 INTRODUCTION & SUMMARY	1
2.0 RESOURCE ELEMENT	5
3.0 LAND USE AND FACILITIES ELEMENT	9
4.0 INTERPRETIVE ELEMENT	13
5.0 OPERATIONS ELEMENT	14
6.0 CONCESSIONS ELEMENT	15
7.0 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ELEMENT	15
8.0 PUBLIC REVIEW OF THE GENERAL PLAN	27
** ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	28
** EXHIBITS	--

LIST OF TABLES & FIGURES

Figure 1	Regional Setting Map	2
Table 1	Annual Dockweiler Beach Attendance	4
Figure 2	Annual Dockweiler Beach Attendance (graph)	5
Figure 3	Aerial Photo – Total Length of Dockweiler/Site (Existing GP)	7
Figure 4	Aerial Photo – Proposed Project Site Area	10
Figure 5	Conceptual Site & Parking Lot Circulation Plan	12

DOCKWEILER STATE BEACH GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT

W.A.T.E.R. PROGRAM YOUTH CENTER FACILITY

1.0 INTRODUCTION & SUMMARY

1.1 Purpose of the General Plan Amendment

The purpose of this General Plan Amendment is to include the construction of a aquatic youth center to the approved program elements in the Dockweiler State Beach General Plan that was originally approved in 1992. This amendment will supplement those uses and facilities that are part of the existing General Plan. The proposed aquatic youth center would be built along the bluff adjacent to Parking Lot #2. The facility would serve a number of important purposes, including:

- Serving as the administrative center and provide adaptive facilities for the County's Water Awareness, Training, Education, and Recreation (W.A.T.E.R.) Program, a year-round youth recreation program for boys and girls ages 5 to 17.
- Serving as the administrative center for volleyball training and activities that will take place in association with the 20 volleyball courts on the beach adjacent to the center.
- The mission of the W.A.T.E.R. Program that is to educate young people about ocean and beach safety by conducting organized recreational activities that provide skills, knowledge and positive personal experiences that allow them to be participants, not spectators.
- The community room in the new youth center would also provide a suitable venue classes in cultural and natural resources; a variety of classes on surrounding health/safety classes, parenting and other adult classes, and various community groups, hang-gliding classes (Dockweiler State Beach only), and beach-related competitions. Such community-based activities would include free use of the youth center facilities for official State Park purposes.
- The youth center would also provide storage space for the County's Junior Lifeguard program, Ocean Sports Camp, Dolphin Camp, Surf Camp, and Ocean Safety Day, which are all programs run by W.A.T.E.R. throughout the year.
- The youth center would offer storage for beach lifeguard and beach maintenance equipment, which is important to properly serve this isolated portion of beach.

This General Plan Amendment proposes adding specific educational, recreational and administrative uses to the southern Dockweiler State Beach area by allowing the enhancement of W.A.T.E.R. Program facilities (Figure 1). Primary funding for planning and construction of these improvements is assured through the *Safe Neighborhood Parks*,

Comment: Page: 1
Insert Fig. 1 – next page

FIGURE 1

Clean Water, Clear Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000. When adopted by the County of Los Angeles, the City of Los Angeles and the State of California, the General Plan Amendment will amend the Dockweiler General Plan of 1992, as noted above.

This General Plan Amendment has been prepared in conformance with State Recreation Area Plan content requirements, authority for which is contained in Sections 539, 5002.2, 5002.3, 5019.50, 5080.03, 5080.20, et al. of the California Public Resources Code, and Section 11370 et seq. of the California Government Code. The County of Los Angeles Department of Beaches and Harbors has prepared this General Plan Amendment for consideration by the State Department of Parks and Recreation and by the State Parks and Recreation Commission.

The County of Los Angeles, as operator of Dockweiler State Beach under a 50 year Joint Powers agreement with the City of Los Angeles, proposes the General Plan Amendment as an implementation program that will create additional public recreation opportunities at this locally-operated unit of the State Park system.

1.2 Unit Identification

Background

The State Parks and Recreation Commission in May 1992 approved the Dockweiler State Beach General Plan and established goals and policies for long-range recreation and operational development for Dockweiler State Beach (Figure 1). The primary purpose of the General Plan is to provide opportunities that enhance the recreational enjoyment of beach visitors. It also provides guidance for the protection and perpetuation of the beaches' significant natural and aesthetic resource values. Over this last ten years, the General Plan served as a guide while the County and the City completed the following:

- Construction of a new 550-car parking lot;
- Construction of a new food concession building;
- Construction of a new public restroom;
- Construction of a new hang-gliding learning center; and
- Reconstruction of a portion of the South Bay Bike Trail (SBBT)

Further, the County is completing plans to reconstruct the existing Dockweiler State Beach facilities using the design guidelines taken from the original 1992 General Plan. This \$9 million upgrade is scheduled for completion in 2005. The proposed project design elements have been approved by the City of Los Angeles Recreation and Parks Commission, and have been endorsed by the regional State Parks & Recreation management team. In addition to the reconstruction of the existing public buildings on this beach, the project includes new entry monumentation to enhance the project's identity as Isidore B. Dockweiler State Beach. The Dockweiler Youth Center will also incorporate the State Parks and Recreation logo in its identification signage.

With the completion of these needed improvements drawing near, the Department of Beaches and Harbors realized that the Dockweiler-Hyperion parking lot offered an opportunity to expand its fast-growing W.A.T.E.R. Program, while still meeting the objectives of the Dockweiler State Beach General Plan. The W.A.T.E.R. Program has been in operation for over fifteen years and has outgrown its present administrative trailers in Marina del Rey. A plan to expand the program to reach 40,000 annual participants made it impractical to remain in Marina del Rey. In searching for a new location, it became apparent that Dockweiler State Beach had the location requirements and the complimentary capacity to grow.

A directive in the Dockweiler State Beach General Plan provides that:

If Dockweiler State Beach is to be improved with more intensive recreational activities, the managing agency should plan and develop such land uses in a recreational cluster. An ideal location for such a center would be in the area south of the RV Campground near the new Hyperion Parking lot.

With this directive of recreational clustering as a guideline, a conceptual design study for the Dockweiler State Beach Youth Center was complete by the County in January 23, 2002. Upon its completion, the County Department of Beaches and Harbors wrote to the State Department of Parks and Recreation seeking a local assistance grant for the development of a new youth center. A grant of \$3 million has been approved by the State to construct the youth center, pending approval of an amendment to the Dockweiler State Beach General Plan.

1.3 Beach Attendance

Table 1, below, provides historical beach attendance information for Dockweiler State Beach, indicating that more than 46 million people have visited Dockweiler and used its facilities since 1990, the last year of analysis provided in the 1992 Dockweiler State Beach General Plan. Figure 2 illustrates this trend over the last 28 years.

Comment: Page: 1
Table 1

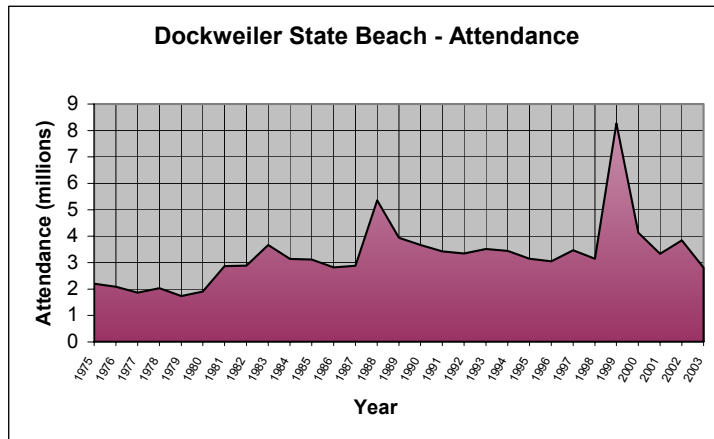
Comment: Page: 1
Figure 2

Table 1
Annual Beach Attendance – Dockweiler State Beach

Year	Attendance
1990	3,664,900
1991	3,425,155
1992	3,344,041
1993	3,511,320
1994	3,445,780
1995	3,145,710
1996	3,044,710
1997	3,462,365
1998	3,142,960
1999	8,259,643
2000	4,133,435
2001	3,338,200
2002	3,784,911
2003	2,810,850

Comment: Page: 1
Lifeguards

Figure 2



2.0 RESOURCE ELEMENT

2.1 Natural Resources – A master plan for bluff restoration along South Bay beaches is currently underway through a joint partnership between Urban Wildlands Group, the Los Angeles Conservation Corps, and Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors. That effort will investigate the feasibility of revegetating and enhancing the natural bluff environment on all South Bay beaches that are owned or operated by the Los Angeles County. The purpose of the revegetation project would be to remove the exotic vegetation currently on the bluffs such as ice plant, and replace it with a diverse community of native dune and bluff plant species. This relandscaping effort would beautify the area, reduce erosion, and provide potential habitat for various animal species. Construction of the proposed aquatic youth center along the bluff area would take up a small portion of degraded coastal bluff area, and would simultaneously provide opportunities for environmental interpretation focusing on coastal processes, the native plant community, the history and redevelopment of the Ballona Wetlands, the habits of the California Least Tern and other protected plant and animal species.

Comment: Page: 1
Add discussion

2.2 Cultural Resources

2.2.1 Current History – The Cultural Resources section of the GPA is expanded to recognize interpretive subjects such as the historical settlement of the area by native populations (principally the Gabrielino and Tongva Tribes) of indigenous people that populated the area over 9,000 years ago; the history of flight in the region; and beach renourishment activities - “The Making of the Beach”. These interpretive subjects will be highlighted through exhibit panels, brochures, audio-visual programs, lectures, and staff/docent led programs. The portion of the beach that the proposed aquatic youth center is to be built on is an old beach renourishment deposit site. The site is comprised of a man-made bluff area, approximately 40-feet deep, created from beach-compatible material covering an 8.25-acre area. The material was excavated



and placed here during the reconstruction of the Hyperion Sewage Treatment Plant in 1950. Given this historical background of the material on which the proposed project will be built, there is no archeological or cultural resource present.

2.2.2 This stretch of man-made beach has not attracted much activity over the years because there was a lack of parking, facilities, and interest. In fact, the area is replete with historical context and information, which can be shared with the public through the venue provided by the new aquatic youth facility at Dockweiler.

- 2.3 Aesthetic Resources – Various sites within, as well as adjacent to the existing parking lot, were considered for the location of the proposed facility. Placing the structure and use within the interior of the existing parking lot would significantly reduce the amount of available public parking, and would likely be inconsistent with Coastal Act policies. Placing the structure on the inland side of the SBBT (bike trail) would severely impact the existing viewshed by increasing the building footprint and further blocking views of Santa Monica Bay from the first major public road (Vista del Mar). In addition, direct public access from the facility to the beach would require crossing the SBBT under controlled circumstances, but not always under program supervision. Locating the facility adjacent to the existing concession/restroom building would add synergy to the project by allowing the public to use the existing outdoor facilities (e.g., showers and restrooms) more efficiently.

In reviewing these considerations, the preferred site for the proposed project is on the bluff, immediately south of the existing concession building/restroom. This low-lying, clustered effect would provide a shared use experience between existing buildings and uses, and would add significantly to the use potential for AREA 5, the Dockweiler Bluff Parking Lot Concession Area (Figure 3). The proposed use of the Dockweiler Youth Center would be centered in an area of the beach that is south of the LAX aircraft overflight area, away from the sound of the planes leaving LAX, close enough to see and enjoy the beauty of the planes, and still making it an attractive site for indoor and outdoor activities.

Comment: Page: 1
Figure 3


Since Dockweiler State Beach is located in the center of Santa Monica Bay, it offers views from Point Dume, on the north, to Palos Verdes Peninsula, on the south, with spectacular views of the Santa Monica Mountains, Santa Catalina Island, and the Palos Verdes Peninsula. The youth center building will be oriented to capture this beautiful view through the use of large windows and patios for outside meetings and instruction. The first story (beach level) of the building is to be built into the slope, and will not be visible from Vista del Mar. It will include a maintenance garage and storage room for equipment used in the volleyball and W.A.T.E.R. programs. Because the first story will be hidden from general view, it will appear much like the existing restroom/concession building located immediately adjacent to the youth center site. The second story (road level) will actually appear to be a one-story building when viewed from the first public road (Vista del Mar). The view interruption will be slight and the building design will create area de and outside where visitors can sit and enjoy the views of the beach and Santa Monica Bay, while learning about the area from a variety of interpretive displays.

FIGURE 3

- 2.4 Recreational Resources – The purpose of the Dockweiler State Beach General Plan Amendment is to provide broad guidelines for the further development and operation of this existing recreational facility. The Plan Amendment introduces a specific improvement to AREA 5, the Hyperion Parking Lot Concession Area, as follows:

Although the proposed project will be principally designed as a youth center, it will be designed to attract large numbers of visitors of all ages to the site. This new facility will provide a new venue of recreation not available to visitors to Dockweiler currently. The facility will offer the ability to expand classroom instruction for all ages during inclement weather and at night. Class programs will include classes on volleyball, First Aid/CPR, public safety, surfing, SCUBA, beach-oriented craft classes, adult exercise classes, and other coastal-related topics.

The multi-purpose room will provide a classroom setting for these indoor activities. W.A.T.E.R. participants will also use the room for video-based lessons, such as *The Deep Blue Sea*, *Big Blue*, *Endless Summer*, and other coastal-related themes. These videos will also be available for viewing by the public through scheduled events and community events. This room will also be available for community meetings, meetings held in conjunction with organized events such as volleyball tournaments and public agency meetings like the State Parks and Recreation Commission and the Los Angeles County Beach Commission.

2.4.1 W.A.T.E.R Program History – The principal purpose for such a facility is to serve as the operational headquarters for the Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors' Water, Awareness, Training, Education, and Recreation (W.A.T.E.R.) Program. The W.A.T.E.R. Program was developed by the Department of Beaches and Harbors in 1986 and is administered by the Los Angeles County Fire Department-Lifeguard Division. Its purpose is to provide the youth of Los Angeles County with training, education, and recreation regarding the water and beachfront environment. For the last 15 years, this program has been administered out of a series of trailers and storage facilities at Marina del Rey. Although the Program has been administered from Marina del Rey, outdoor program activities have generally been located at Dockweiler State Beach, adjacent to the Dockweiler Bluff Parking lot, and near the hang-gliding and volleyball facilities at the southern end of the beach.

This new facility would become the hub of activity for the W.A.T.E.R. Program. Vans transport children from Dockweiler to other beaches as far north as Nicholas Canyon, and as far south as Cabrillo Beach. In addition to providing a headquarters for the W.A.T.E.R. program, this facility would enable the Program to extend its season from just a three-month summer to all year, due to the provision of protective indoor facilities that would be available for training and educational purposes.

2.4.2 Relationship to Dockweiler State Beach General Plan – The current Dockweiler State Beach General Plan provides for a 550-car parking lot, a food concession, a public restroom, a hang-gliding center, and a newly designed portion

of the SBBT. Approval of this Plan Amendment would complete the anticipated development within the current 1992 General Plan. This Plan Amendment will create a cluster of recreational buildings referenced in the Plan by tying together the food concession, the youth center, and the hang-gliding center along the bluff at the Hyperion parking lot.

- 2.5 Resource Policy Formation -- (no change anticipated)
- 2.6 Resource Management Goals and Objectives – (no change anticipated)
- 2.7 Allowable Use Intensity – (Zone III, high use/clustered development; no change anticipated)

3.0 LAND USE AND FACILITIES ELEMENT

- 3.1 Existing conditions – The 1992 Dockweiler State Beach General Plan identifies and recommends new facilities and uses which would remain consistent with the allowable use intensities. Those facilities included a volleyball area, a restroom/concession building, landscape enhancement, and redesign of the bike path (SBBT). Those facilities, including 20 volleyball courts, a restroom, a concession, a public parking lot and bike path relocation have been completed and are now part of the Dockweiler State Beach facility. The proposed location of the Dockweiler Aquatic Youth Center will be within the parking lot and the sloped area immediately south of the existing concession stand/public restroom in Lot #2. (See Figure 4)
- 3.2 Planning Issues – All uses of the proposed Dockweiler Youth Center shall adhere to the tenets of the State Park & Recreation Department's stated mission, which is:

To provide for the health, inspiration, and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the State's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation.

- 3.3 Proposed Land Uses and Facilities – The Dockweiler General Plan recognized that AREA 5, (RV Campground/Hyperion and Grand Street Centers) is underutilized and has potential for higher intensity uses that would be inappropriate for other areas of the beach. The W.A.T.E.R. Program Aquatic Youth Center was proposed to answer the regions growing demand for children's ocean safety programs and for its compatibility to the land use needs of AREA 5. The realization of a beach volleyball center will be part of the realization of the new building. Facilities within the building will be designed to have multiple uses depending on the recreational venues being presented at that time The future aquatic youth center would offer volleyball classes, a pro shop and locker room facilities to provide an area that can accommodate organized volleyball tournaments. Until then, the aquatic youth center would act as a catalyst for serving the needs of the public by bringing many new activities to Dockweiler State Beach, including the following:

Comment: Page: 1
Insert Fig. 4 – next page



FIGURE 4

- Offices of the W.A.T.E.R. Program and its accompanying conference requirements;
- Support functions for aquatic equipment storage and vehicle storage necessary to accomplish the expansion of the W.A.T.E.R. Program;
- Room for classrooms to teach the academic side of volleyball, roller skating, beach safety, biking, and hang gliding to name a few;
- A multi-purpose meeting facility capable of accommodating approximately 200 people for a variety of public and/or private functions administered by the County;
- Support functions for a maintenance vehicle that maintains the beach at the southern portion of Dockweiler State Beach; and
- A visitor center to offer information about Los Angeles County beach recreational opportunities.

A proposed site and circulation plan showing the area of the proposed improvements is shown in Figure 5. These additions to Dockweiler State Beach would fulfill the 1992 Dockweiler State Beach General Plan, which states, in part:

Comment: Page: 1
Figure 5

Finding: AREA 5 should provide opportunities for higher intensity recreational uses.

Directive: If Dockweiler State Beach is to be improved with more intensive recreational activities, the managing agency should plan and develop such land uses in a recreational cluster.

3.4 Parking and Circulation

A parking analysis was completed following the completion of a conceptual design program for development of a aquatic youth center at Dockweiler State Beach. It was determined that because of the various types of aquatic recreation activities that would take place within AREA 5 (See Figure 4), that a new traffic circulation pattern within the AREA 5 parking lot would have to be completed for the following reasons:



- The relationship of the aquatic youth center to the existing activity areas on the beach;
- The relationship of the aquatic youth center to the handicapped access to the beach;
- The relationship of the aquatic youth center to the SBBT and safe pedestrian crossing from parking drop-off areas to the youth center;
- The development of a safe drop-off zone with adequate stacking to provide vehicles dropping off youth for program activities;
- The development of a safe and sheltered bus parking area for disembarking youth from busses bringing individuals to the project site; and
- Adequate stacking and circulation of vehicles beyond the drop off area, through the parking lot back to Vista del Mar, as shown in Figure 5.

Comment: Page: 1
Figure 5

FIGURE 5

Other considerations related to providing adequate stacking for both drop-off and adequate circulation within the parking are that the circulation pattern be slightly modified to provide the following:

- Increase the vehicle turnaround space at the northern end of the parking area to accommodate bus turn around;
- Provide a new access point with sheltered bus parking at the western portion of the lot; and
- Close off the median break at the parking lot entrance to provide a longer internal (return) circulation route with an appropriate vehicle stacking level.

With these elements known, we will have a new parking circulation assessment completed and provide to State Parks along with a set of the completed drawings for their review.

4.0 INTERPRETIVE ELEMENT

4.1 Interpretive Themes – The Dockweiler General Plan discusses six interpretive themes that would enhance the total beach experience by incorporating them into the facilities at the beach. These themes include: i) the *Changing Coastline*; ii) *Hang-gliding*; iii) *the Natural Environment*; iv) *Planes/Trains/Automobiles*; v) *Safety at the Beach*; and vi) *Isidore Who?* Other topics are important to the area, such as:

- The story of the Gabrielino/Tongva Tribe of Native Americans, the indigenous people that populated the area 9,000 years ago;
- The restoration of the El Segundo Dunes;
- The history of coastal erosion, entitled *The Making of a Beach*;
- The Ballona Wetlands and the development of Marina del Rey;
- The growth of the endangered California Least Tern compound;
- The history of aeronautic flight in the region; and
- Other important regional development activities that have affected the coastline.

Completion of the Dockweiler Youth Center would provide for greater public exposure to each of these interpretive themes by increasing public contact and understanding with the interpretive elements of the beach through programming of activities at the Center.

4.2 Proposed Interpretation – The Dockweiler Youth Center program elements would provide a year-round facility that would focus public educational programming, including all six of these themes. The mission of the W.A.T.E.R. Program is to educate young people and increase awareness of ocean and beach safety through organized activities that provide skills, knowledge and positive personal experiences. The new Aquatic Youth Center would provide classrooms for developing a greater understanding of these themes and staging for many of these organized activities, as well as providing indoor meeting space for use during inclement weather.

The Cultural Resources section of the GPA is expanded to recognize interpretive subjects such as the historical settlement of the area by native populations (principally the Gabrielino and Tongva Tribes) of indigenous people that populated the area over 9,000 years ago; the history of flight in the region; and beach renourishment activities - "The Making of the Beach". These interpretive subjects will be highlighted through exhibit panels, brochures, audio-visual programs, lectures, and staff/docent led programs.

5.0 OPERATIONS ELEMENT

5.1 Purpose (no change anticipated)

5.2 Existing Operations (no change anticipated)

5.3 Proposed Operations

5.3.1 Proposed Operations –Resource Management – Approximately 57 acres of southern Dockweiler State Beach remained unused by the public for beach recreation for years because of limited public facilities and nearby parking. This area was crossed by the SBBT, and had been used by hang-gliders and radio-controlled model airplane enthusiasts for years because of its gentle slope and local wind patterns. Additionally, the site area had previously been altered by unrelated construction associated with the expansion of the Hyperion Sewage Treatment Plant and several beach replenishment efforts conducted over many years. Adoption of the 1992 Dockweiler State Beach General Plan enabled completion of a parking lot, restroom, concession, and hang-gliding concession to enhance public coastal access along the south end of Dockweiler State Beach. With the addition of the W.A.T.E.R. Program and the new aquatic youth center, the additional programming capacity for this portion of the beach would improve dramatically.

Since the beach fill material that the aquatic youth center would be constructed on was moved to the site in the 1950's, there are no known archaeological or historic resources that affect the establishment of a new youth center on the proposed site. However, the focus of public attention to this portion of the beach through the aquatic youth center would provide a venue for featuring displays and information relating to the adjacent areas.

5.3.2 Facility Management – Following the approval of the 1992 Dockweiler State Beach General Plan and the addition of the new facilities within and surrounding Parking Lot #2, the Department of Beaches and Harbors increased beach maintenance staff hours to properly maintain these facilities. Additional staffing and contract maintenance services would be needed by the County to maintain the new facilities and serve the needs of extended operating hours, including evening meetings and classes. Community-based activities conducted in the youth center would include free use of the facilities for official State Park purposes, subject to facility availability to avoid scheduling conflicts, and with appropriate prior notice.

5.3.3 Beach Safety – Beach and water safety is a main part of the curriculum that is taught in the W.A.T.E.R. Program through its program delivery and skill levels. The week-long skill “camps” are designed to introduce youngsters to the ocean environment and emphasize water safety.

6.0 CONCESSIONS ELEMENT

6.3 Proposed Concessions

The Dockweiler State Beach General Plan states:

Although the Department of the Parks and Recreation emphasizes that these concessions should not create added financial burden on the State,” it equally stresses that “the concessions shall either reduce costs or generate revenues that aid in maintaining and expanding the State Park System.

As part of the Aquatic Youth Center development, a number of concession elements would be incorporated into its overall operation to assist with future revenue realization.

The W.A.T.E.R. Program offers a number of different youth skills programs that are fee-based. These provided additional revenue for FY 2003 of \$47,000 to the County that will help offset general maintenance and operational costs. These funds are also used to offset the cost of providing free inner-city transportation to improve access to the Program sites. No child is ever turned away from the W.A.T.E.R. Program because of cost. A scholarship program is available for individuals in need of financial assistance. This Program absorbs an average of \$7,200 in tuition fees annually (See Exhibits). The financial aid schedule is based on the California State Department of Social Services Food Stamp Program.

The new Youth Center would also produce revenues from anticipated national volleyball tournaments that would be held at this site. In addition, when the multi-purpose room is not being used for various W.A.T.E.R. or Junior Lifeguard Programs, it will be available for community events, special events, or banquets. Marketing of these events, or any other special events to be held in conjunction with the operation of the youth center, will be subject to strict policy guidelines set forth by the Department of Beaches and Harbors.

7.0 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ELEMENT

7.1 CEQA Process and Review for General Plans

The Environmental Impact Element (EIE) has been prepared according to the amended mandates of CEQA, which call for an objective assessment of the proposed project’s environmental consequences. Those aspects of the proposed project (GPA) with the greatest potential to cause an adverse change in the environment have been emphasized. Pursuant to Public Resources Code, Section 5147, and also to minimize repetition, the EIE incorporates by reference all information contained in the

preceding elements of the General Plan. Together with these other elements, the EIE constitutes an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) as required by CEQA. Additional environmental disclosure and analysis may be required by the Lead Agency, pursuant to CEQA, in order to properly assess project impacts when elements of this GPA are actually considered for construction.

7.2 Environmental Issues Analysis

The Environmental Issues Analysis section of the EIR assesses the proposed project with regard to adverse and beneficial effect in the following subject areas (other subject areas were determined to have no change in impacts, as indicated in the Initial Study contained in Appendix I of the 1992 Dockweiler State Beach General Plan):

- Earth Resources
- Water Resources
- Public Services
- Transportation and Circulation
- Plant Life and Vegetation
- Natural Resources
- Light and Glare
- Aesthetics
- Recreation
- Parking
- Bikepath & Pedestrian Conflict

Where considered appropriate, analysis of these environmental impact categories is organized in the following manner within each category:

- Environmental Setting – A description of existing and pre-amendment conditions, and a discussion of the policy and technical background necessary to analyze project impacts;
- Environmental Impact – An analysis of the beneficial and adverse effects of the proposed plan amendment including, where appropriate, assessments of the significance of potential adverse impacts relative to established criteria and thresholds (i.e., relative to existing conditions per CEQA); and
- Mitigation Measures – Wherever significant adverse impacts relative to existing conditions have been identified under Environmental Impact, appropriate and reasonable measures are recommended to minimize impacts.

7.2.1 Earth Resources

7.2.1.1 Setting -- The proposed project site is located on a portion of bluff created by the prior deposition of excavation spoil from previous Hyperion Treatment Plant (HTP) construction activity. Over the last 60 years, wind has eroded and shaped the area into a low-lying bluff, which rises to approximately 25 feet to elevation +35

Mean Sea Level (MSL), not unlike similar features found along the natural coastal bluff system existing to the north and south of the site.

The Dockweiler coastline lies in the Santa Monica Littoral Cell, which extends from Point Dume to Palos Verdes Point. This coastline is bounded by Topanga Canyon on the north and Malaga Cove on the south and exhibits a continuous sandy beach over its entire length. The coastline in this northeastern part of the cell is predominately facing west-southwest, with a north-south orientation. As a result, it is generally sheltered from large storm waves, which usually arrive in the Southern California Bight from the northwest. However, this shoreline is still vulnerable to storm energy directly from the west and south.

7.2.1.2 Potential Impacts -- The west-facing bluffs are composed mostly of sand and silty sand, which was originally excavated from the HTP construction site. These bluffs have naturalized with native and non-native vegetation, and are now a basic feature of the coastal environment. Vista del Mar, the local north/south coastal highway, lies directly to the east of these bluffs. Construction of the HTP Temporary Parking Lot included importation, grading and compaction of fill on the top and west-facing slope of the bluff.

For construction of the proposed project, the existing bluff face would need to be regraded. The Youth Center will likely be constructed on piles driven into the bluff face, rather than supported by the bluff, itself.

A Geotechnical Services Report, dated May 20, 1994, discusses an investigation of soil conditions at the proposed project site, and assesses the site for suitability as structural foundation. The site is prone to wind erosion and caving, and specific construction techniques to counteract these conditions are recommended. The same report provided foundation design recommendations, grading recommendations, and construction method recommendations for future structures.

City of Los Angeles, Geotechnical Services has indicated that the slope of the bluff is stable to normal, natural forces of wind and rain. However, frequent foot traffic on the bluff will cause sand to erode and migrate downward onto the beach. This may necessitate reconstruction of the slope around the Youth Center structure if project design does not include erosion control measures.

The proper design of improvements at the Dockweiler State Beach requires a review of the coastal processes for the site to determine the potential wave run-up that could affect the project. The processes that need to be analyzed are the tidal fluctuations and rising sea level (water level), and ocean waves. A Coastal Engineering Analysis and Wave Run-Up Study was completed for Dockweiler State Beach on June 23, 2000, and a supplement was completed on May 22, 2001. Both studies determined that under a certain set of combined circumstances such as wind, storm direction, rain velocity, and so on, wave energy could possibly reach the site of the constructed improvements and cause damage. The reports also noted that the strongest of these circumstances occurred in Spring 1982, with no damage recorded to the subject site, and no damage recorded in the last thirty (30) years.

Southern California is known for its periodic earthquake and new development must always consider the potential for liquefaction. Dockweiler State Beach was leased to the City of Los Angeles for beach operations in 1976. It can be said that the area has undergone a number of earthquakes in recent history. The most severe of these may have been in 1994. Neither a review of historical records or personal interviews show any indication of any damage to the facilities at Dockweiler State Beach due to seismic activities.

7.2.1.3 Mitigation Measures -- All demolition, grading, and excavations will be subject to the typical restrictions and requirements that address erosion and runoff, including the Federal Clean Water Act and National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), which includes but may not be limited to silt fencing, sand bags appropriately placed during rain events, and an erosion control plan that uses native species known to occur in the area for re-vegetation. Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be used throughout the project's construction and operation to avoid and minimize associated indirect impacts.

General mitigation measures that may reduce erosion impacts include design and construction measures, landscaping, and measures to reduce foot traffic on the slopes. Grading and construction shall be designed so as to require fill materials that can be compacted to a more stable density than is possible for sand. When these materials are compacted and then covered with a clay cap, the potential for erosion would be greatly reduced. Landscaping placed above this clay cap would minimize damage to the cap, and provide further erosion control. The use of paved footpaths, and measures to increase their use over that of the unpaved slope, would further reduce wear and erosive forces on the slope.

In addition, previous concerns have been raised by the Coastal Commission and the City of Los Angeles Environmental Affairs Department regarding possible impacts of construction on the Dockweiler bluffs with respect to the nearby El Segundo Dunes Restoration Project, located northeast of Imperial Highway, across Vista del Mar. To mitigate this potentially significant impact, all landscaping used in the proposed project would consist of native coastal sage scrub plant material.

In considering any improvements for Dockweiler State Beach, a coastal wave run-up study for specific development proposals, including the proposed location for the aquatic youth center, is required to be conducted during the entitlements phase of project development. This evaluation will consider the coastal processes that are active at the site and their effect on wave run-up for the area. This work will utilize data that has been accumulated by NOAA wave buoys and tidal gauges. Wave run-up studies were recently completed for all the new facilities that will be reconstructed at Dockweiler Beach by the County. These reports concluded that the predicted wave run-up using a 25-year storm and the extreme water level for this shoreline was found to be +13.28 feet NGVD. This run-up level was found to be higher than two of the existing structures that are planned to remain at their current locations and elevations. However, the construction of protective sand berms throughout the winter and the location of the buildings back from the beach face has allowed them to exist for 30 years without structural damage having been observed. The reports recommend that the construction of the sand berms continue to assist in

the protection of low-lying improvements along Dockweiler State Beach. Due to the occurrence of significant beach recession that varies from year to year, it is further recommended that the lifeguard substations be constructed with pile foundations. This is due to the need to place these structures on the top of the beach face, which is susceptible to beach recession.

Looking at the base of the restroom/concession that sits adjacent to the proposed youth center it would be fair to say that the base of the youth facility will be at the same level, which is at approximately the same elevation as the lifeguard facilities to be constructed at Imperial Highway and Culver Blvd. Due to the possibility of losing the soils surrounding the foundations of the lifeguard substations, the engineer recommended that the structures be placed on piles in assist in the prevention of structural damage due to the possible beach recession. The piles in conjunction with the construction of protective sand berms throughout the winter should allow them to withstand storm events.

7.2.2 Water Resources

7.2.2.1 Setting – The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power supplies water to Dockweiler State Beach. An 8-inch trunk line transports water north of the Imperial Highway while a 16-inch line has recently been installed on Vista del Mar south of Imperial Highway.

With regard to storm water runoff, three major storm drains discharge into Santa Monica Bay at Dockweiler State Beach and eight storm gutters are located on Vista del Mar. Storm water that drains to the base of the beach bluffs flows toward the coastal strand and can be absorbed by the dune sand.

The proposed project would be located approximately 170 feet from the Pacific Ocean, which is the ultimate destination of surface and ground water in the western United States. The proposed youth center would produce an impermeable footprint on the bluff face.

The small size of the structure and its setting into the side of the ocean bluff, would not impact the rate or amount of water absorption, drainage or runoff. The area is not adjacent to any rivers and does not pose a risk of flooding. The proposed project will not introduce any surface or ground water into the Pacific Ocean, nor change the course of direction of either surface or groundwater.

7.2.2.2 Potential Impacts -- Existing facilities for the unit include 49 showerheads, 78 toilets, and 28 urinals. These facilities are located at the Kilgore, Deauville, Gillis, Culver, R.V. Campground, and Maintenance Headquarters restrooms. The new facility will add another approximate 20 showerheads, 25 toilets and 15 urinals.

7.2.2.3 Mitigation -- The construction of a new facility would include restroom fixtures that comply with local, regional, and state water conservation programs. Among fixtures that can be implemented for the unit's public facilities include toilet displacement bags and low flow showerheads, which dispense 2.8 gallons of water per minute. All proposed facilities would connect water and sewer trunk lines to the existing facilities located below Vista del Mar.

7.2.3 Public Services

7.2.3.1 Setting -- The proposed project includes no residential units, and is not anticipated to contribute to population growth in the area, only meet existing demand. Therefore, there will be no impact on the schools.

Police: The Los Angeles Police Department, Pacific Division, provides law enforcement services for Dockweiler State Beach. The Pacific Division is located at 12312 Culver Boulevard in the City of Los Angeles and currently operates with a staff of approximately 300 sworn officers. To ensure adequate response time to beach area communities, the Police Department also operates a substation located between Windward Street and Ocean Front Walk, at Venice Beach, directly adjacent to Dockweiler State Beach.

Fire: The Los Angeles City Fire Department, Fire Station #51, provides fire protection services for Dockweiler State Beach. Fire Station #51 is located at 10435 Sepulveda Boulevard, approximately three miles east of the unit. The Station operates with a staff of four firefighters with a triple engine company truck. Response time to the beach is estimated at 10 minutes or less.

7.2.3.2 Potential Impacts -- The proposed development of the Dockweiler Youth Center would attract larger crowds during the off-season as well as during peak attendance days. The increase in the number of persons and the presence of a new facility could effect law enforcement and firefighting response times and staffing needs. Each agency, however, has indicated that the addition of new recreational facilities would not significantly impact their ability to provide public services to Dockweiler State Beach.

7.2.3.3 Mitigation -- In 1995, the City of Los Angeles approved a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the construction of a restroom/concession facility and hang gliding center within the same area at Dockweiler Beach. As mitigation, it was suggested that a security guard be hired and the area have appropriate lighting. Security guards patrol the Dockweiler State Beach RV Park from 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. and also drives through Parking Lot #2. In addition, all of the new lights in Parking Lot #2 were replaced in 2001, when the lot was fully turned over to the County, to meet the lighting goal established in the 1992 General Plan.

7.2.4 Transportation and Circulation

7.2.4.1 Setting -- The General Plan proposes a net increase in parking facilities from approximately 2000 existing and temporary spaces to more than 2,600 total permanent spaces. This fact, and the increase in additional facilities will increase traffic, which will likely impact surrounding traffic circulation

7.2.4.2 Potential Impacts -- Vista del Mar is designated as a Major Scenic Highway in the Westchester-Playa del Rey District Plan. No traffic study has been done for the project area, and the Dockweiler State Beach General Plan does not discuss the effects of increased traffic resulting from the proposed project. However, City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation has collected traffic counts on Vista del Mar near the project site. There are currently no plans to install pedestrian crossings between the east and west

sides of Vista del Mar and a danger of the public has been noted in the General Plan of pedestrians crossing this highway to the beach.

City of Los Angeles Traffic Counts taken along Vista del Mar indicates that weekday and weekend traffic operates at level of service (LOS) A, and is not currently congested. Operation of the proposed project is not expected to decrease the LOS below current operating efficiency, except for occasional summer special events held at the site.

In addition, the parking demand patterns at the Dockweiler Bluff Parking Lot has been compared with past usage and it has been determined that the current capacity will not be exceeded by constructing the new aquatic youth center.

7.2.4.3 Mitigation -- This project will result in an increase in public activity at the Dockweiler Bluff Parking Lot. To avoid causing any additional traffic congestion on Vista del Mar, the parking lot will be redesigned so that cars will be able to line up within the parking lot when dropping off or picking up W.A.T.E.R. program attendees. In addition, most of the kids are picked up by W.A.T.E.R. program vehicle. These circumstances indicate that the traffic from the new facility would not affect traffic on Vista del Mar. As to pedestrians crossing on Vista del Mar, the addition of this facility at the Dockweiler Bluff Parking Lot will not put attendees in danger as they will be arriving either by private vehicle and will pull into the parking lot or will arrive via County van that will pull up to the drop off area within the parking lot.

7.2.5 Plant Life and Vegetation

7.2.5.1 Setting -- The bluffs on which the Dockweiler Youth Center is proposed to be built have become overgrown with vegetation, both native and non-native, and are now a basic feature of the coastal environment. Vista del Mar, the local north/south coastal highway, lies directly to the east of these bluffs. Construction of the Dockweiler #2 Lot included importation, grading and compaction of fill on the top and west of the facing slope of the bluff.

7.2.5.2 Potential Impacts -- The west-facing bluffs are composed mostly of sand and silty sand that was originally excavated from the HTP construction site. For the construction of the proposed project, the Dockweiler Youth Center would require movement and grading of previously deposited fill material, and regrading of the bluff face. The structure would be constructed on piles driven into the bluff face, rather than supported by the bluff itself.

A Geotechnical Services Report, dated May 20, 1994, discusses an investigation of soil conditions at the proposed project site, and assesses the site for suitability as structural foundation. The site was found to be prone to erosion and caving, and specific construction techniques are advised. The report provides foundation design recommendations, grading recommendations, and construction method recommendations for the restroom/concession stand structure, which was built three years ago and will be directly adjacent to the new youth center facility.

City of Los Angeles, Geotechnical Services has indicated that the slope of the bluff is stable to normal, natural forces of wind and rain. However, frequent foot traffic on the bluff will cause sand to erode and migrate downward onto the beach. This will necessitate frequent reconstruction of the slope around the youth center if project design does not include some sort of erosion control measures.

California Coastal Commission and City of Los Angeles Environmental Affairs Department staff has expressed concerns regarding possible impacts of the proposed project on dunes restoration. Although the bluff within the project site is not part of the restoration project, plant seeds and viable vegetation material from the site may be carried by wind or by birds to the restoration area.

7.2.5.2 Mitigation -- General mitigation measures that may reduce erosion impacts include design and construction measures, landscaping, and measures to reduce foot traffic on the slopes. Grading and construction shall be designed so as to require fill materials, which can be compacted to a more stable density than is possible for sand. The Geotechnical Services Section report also provides design, grading, and construction method recommendations for the construction of the restroom/concession built three years ago. Similar recommendations will be solicited from Geotechnical Services for design, grading, and construction method in construction of the youth center.

To mitigate for any possible damage to the dunes project across Vista del Mar that is a potentially significant impact, all landscaping used in the proposed project would consist of flora native to the California coast. In addition, non-native plants, such as ice plant, will be removed and replaced with additional plantings of native coastal sage scrub to reduce the possibility of erosion.

7.2.6 Natural Resources

7.2.6.1 Setting -- The beach's topography, as it existed during the 1920s and 1930s, consisted of ocean waves crashing onto the base of rocky beach bluffs. The only portion of sandy shoreline was located at the northern portion of the beach near Ballona Lagoon. Today, the beach bluffs remain as a resource, but have since been joined by the man-made Dockweiler Coastal Strand that extends from Ballona Creek, on the north, to the Scattergoods steam power plant, on the south.

7.2.6.2 Potential Impacts -- The proposed resource management policies outlined in the Resource Element of this Plan would positively affect the unit's single, significant topographic natural resource. The General Plan provides for the protection of the beach bluffs from human-caused erosion and stabilizes the slopes with appropriate ground covers.

The construction of additional restrooms and concessions would result in the consumption of natural resources such as water and power. During the construction of the various facilities and activity centers proposed by the General Plan, fossil fuels would also be consumed by the operation of heavy construction equipment.

7.2.6.3 Mitigation -- The managing agency shall follow the goals and policies for the protection of natural resources as outlined in the Resource Element of the General Plan.

7.2.7 Lighting and Glare

7.2.7.1 Setting -- For the purpose of this analysis, light and glare is defined as those uses that could detract from the enjoyment of beachgoers or nearby residents through bright reflection or illumination. Existing sources of light and glare at Dockweiler State Beach include lighting from parking lots, vehicles traveling along Vista del Mar, and the reflection of the ocean.

7.2.7.2 Potential Impacts -- The Land Use and Facilities Element of the General Plan proposes the construction of new parking facilities near the Gillis Restroom, the expansion of the R.V. Campground, the rehabilitation of the Main Entrance, and additional restroom and concession facilities. Each of these proposals presents potential light and glare impacts. Since lighting fixtures will be installed at these areas, the lighting system could potentially cause light and glare for nearby residents, campers at the R.V. Park, and motorists along Vista del Mar. Similarly, the texture of materials chosen for construction of these developments could create light and glare impacts.

7.2.7.3 Mitigation -- Lighting systems installed at Dockweiler State Beach would use high pressure sodium, or similar energy-conserving lighting systems. Directional lighting would be utilized that would shield adjacent residences from potential light and glare impacts.

7.2.8 Aesthetics

7.2.8.1 Setting -- Because of its centralized location along Santa Monica Bay, visitors of Dockweiler State Beach and residents in adjacent communities are afforded spectacular views of the Santa Monica Mountains, Palos Verdes Peninsula, Santa Catalina Island, and sunsets. Its location in an urban area, however, also provides detracting views of heavy industrial complexes such as the Hyperion Wastewater Treatment Plant, the Scattergood Steam & Power Plant, and the Chevron Oil Refinery.

With regard to the visual quality of the beach itself, existing facilities such as the Gillis Restroom and the Recreation Vehicle Campground have been attractively designed and landscaped. Other facilities and features such as restrooms, concession areas, the Lifeguard Headquarters, and the beach bluffs appear dilapidated and neglected, and require improved landscape treatment and design renovation.

7.2.8.2 Potential Impacts -- The development of new facilities could be incompatible with the natural quality of the existing built form as well as impact some of the unit's spectacular view corridors and vista points. In an effort to minimize the effect of new development at Dockweiler State Beach, the General Plan has recommended illustrative design concepts to govern the design, development, and construction of proposed public facilities and recreation activity centers.

7.2.8.3 Mitigation -- Barriers to visual access to the ocean caused by the siting and design of the aquatic youth center looking both west from the highway and north/south along the beach will be decided during the architectural design phase subject to the approval of the California State Parks Department and ultimately

through the California Coastal Commission process. Specific building standards -- height, mass, scale, and site coverage would be established for each of the facilities proposed in the Land Use and Facilities Element. Within the planning process, we will incorporate the following principles within the design strategy:

- Specific building standards -- height, mass, scale, and site coverage would be established for each of the facilities proposed during the planning process;
- Recommendations from California State Parks for landscaping design to provide specific and appropriate plant types for this location;
- The proposed site has a direct ocean view, with exceptional views of the famous southern California sunsets. The area appears run-down and neglected, with sparse vegetation. The proposed project is anticipated to have a positive effect on the aesthetics of the site by creating a landscaping design that is natural to the environment and an architectural design that compliments the vista. Working together, these two esthetic elements will provide areas to sit and enjoy the views from inside and outside of the building

7.2.9. Recreation

7.2.9.1 Setting -- Dockweiler State Beach is a man-made recreational resource. Without the continued efforts of beach nourishment projects, the beach would only consist of beach bluffs as it did in the 1920s and 1930s. The existing recreational resources the beach has to offer include the Recreation Vehicle Campground, informal volleyball facilities, and a portion of the South Bay Coastal Bike Path. The County of Los Angeles Department of Beaches and Harbors manages these resources.

7.2.9.2 Potential Impacts -- Since the beach is primarily a recreational resource, the proposed expansion of the Recreation Vehicle Campground, the construction of the Volleyball Area, the restoration of a Hang-Gliding Practice Area and the addition of a youth center, would have a beneficial effect on the unit. In addition, the planned activity centers have been located in the underutilized southern portion of the unit in an effort to create interest in that area, and redirect beach visitors from the more residentially-oriented neighborhood near the beach's northern boundary.

However, because of the increased activity proposed for the beach, potential impacts could include security concerns, safety factors for beach visitors, conflicts for space between existing and proposed recreational uses, and over utilization that may stretch the operational capacity of the unit's managing agency.

7.2.9.3 Mitigation -- The managing agency would follow the recommendations proposed in the Operations Element of the General Plan. These recommendations outline specific policies that could mitigate potential operational concerns related to increased recreational activity at the unit.

7.2.10 Parking

7.2.10.1 Setting -- Dockweiler State Beach has a total of 2080 parking spaces, of which 574 are located in the Dockweiler Lot #2, the site of the new Youth Center.

7.2.10.2 Potential Impacts -- Participants of the new program will take up an additional number of parking spaces that are not being currently used. Knowing this, we must consider what the lot was designed to do. It was designed as a recreational center to accommodate a number of uses: beach recreation, volleyball tournaments, hang gliding, none of which use up 574 spaces with the size of the beach this area provides, yet it could be a possibility.

7.2.10.3 Mitigation -- During the planning of the youth center, overloading the parking lot was discussed and the possibility of numerous events going on at the same time was reviewed. The parking lot will be redesigned to accommodate stacking of cars that may be dropping off participants of the W.A.T.E.R. program and special areas for buses they bring kids to the W.A.T.E.R. program facilities will be provided. These added measures would keep the traffic flowing and parking open for beach use as well as the use of the participants of the W.A.T.E.R.

7.2.11 Bikepath (SBBT) and Pedestrian Conflict

7.2.11.1 Setting -- The Marvin Braude/South Bay Bicycle Trail (SBBT) stretches from Torrance County Beach, on the south, to Temescal Canyon Blvd. (Will Rogers State Beach), on the north, for a total of 19 miles. The Trail travels directly along the coast and travels through Dockweiler State Beach, skirting the site of the proposed Dockweiler Youth Center.

7.2.11.2 Potential Impact -- Potential involvement between bikers on the bike path and beach goers that are moving from the parking lots to the water is an everyday occurrence at every facility along the nineteen-mile stretch of the bike path. The Dockweiler Youth center, like all the other facilities along the bike path will have to be designed with the safety of the individual on the bike, the beachgoer and the people attending the youth center in mind.

7.2.11.3 Mitigation -- During the design phase of any new facility on any beach that the Marvin Braude/South Bay Bicycle Trail travels through, facility design must consider any potential conflicts with uses of the beach area. Specific areas of concern include traffic flow signage and lighting, pedestrian flow patterns, parking lot design, and congregation areas.

7.2.12 Air Quality and Noise

7.2.12.1 Setting: Short-term indirect impacts related to demolition or construction activities may include project related dust and noise. Threshold impacts include:

- Conflict with applicable air quality plan(s) and/or create air quality violations.
- Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations.
- Create objectionable odors
- Expose persons to noise levels that exceed established standards.
- Cause either a permanent or temporary increase in ambient noise levels.

7.2.12.2 Potential Impacts: The effects of implementing the proposed project should, in the long-term, reduce negative impacts to air quality by landscaping and hardscape

control of airborne dust. However, short-term impacts associated with grading and construction has the potential to produce air pollution, air-borne dust, erosion and noise.

The proposed project's 600 additional spaces may generate additional vehicular traffic from increased visitation. However, localized concentrations of vehicle-generated carbon monoxide would not be expected to exceed ambient air quality standards. As such, air quality impacts from mobile source emissions would be less than significant.

7.2.12.3 Mitigation Measures: Construction activities will be in compliance with South Coast Air Quality Management District rules and regulations, including rule 403 to minimize the emission of air quality impacts during construction. Equipment will be monitored (and adapted as needed) to ensure that noise levels do not exceed established standards. Project-specific environmental analysis would be required for future development projects and may provide additional measures to further reduce air quality impacts during construction. Proposed mitigations are feasible and sufficient to avoid or minimize potential adverse effects to air quality and noise to levels below significance.

7.3 Effects Found Not to be Significant

There would not be any significant adverse impacts to the environment if the proposed General Plan Amendment is implemented along with any recommended mitigation measures. The following aspects of the local environment would not be affected by the implementation of the General Plan Amendment:

- Earth Resources
- Water Resources
- Public Services
- Transportation and Circulation
- Natural Resources
- Light and Glare
- Aesthetics
- Wave Run-Up

In addition, the following aspects of the local environment would receive net beneficial effects from development under the General Plan Amendment:

- Cultural Resources: the programmatic nature of the proposed Youth Center will provide increased opportunities for interpretive aspects of the area.
- Plant Life: Benefiting from the re-introduction of native coastal sage scrub species, the removal of invasive species, and the aesthetic improvement of facilities through landscape treatment.

7.4 Relationship of Local Short-Term Uses and Long Term Productivity

(no change anticipated)

7.5 Significant Irreversible Environmental Changes

(no change anticipated)

7.6 Growth-Inducing Impacts

(no change anticipated)

7.7 Alternatives to the Project

(no change anticipated)

7.8 Mitigation Monitoring

(no change anticipated)

8.0 PUBLIC REVIEW OF THE GENERAL PLAN

- 8.1 This section is to be completed following completion of public review, CEQA, and the adoption process. However, the proposed General Plan Amendment did undergo one local public hearing on November 19, 2003 before the regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Beach Commission. Comments received at this meeting were generally very supportive, with no objections received. Minutes of this meeting of the County Beach Commission will be provided to the Secretary of the State Parks & Recreation Commission prior to taking action on the General Plan Amendment.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

State of California

Arnold Schwarzenegger – Governor

State Department of Parks and Recreation

Ruth Coleman –Director
Theodore Jackson – Chief, Southern Division
Ron Schafer, Superintendent, Angeles District
Kathleen Franklin, Superintendent of Los Angeles Sector, Angeles District
Hayden Sohm – Superintendent of Malibu Sector, Angeles District
Keith Demetrak, Chief, Planning Division
Clay Phillips – Planning Chief, Southern Service Center
Audra Lindsey – Planning Specialist, Southern Division

County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors

Gloria Molina – First District	Yvonne Brathwaite Burke – Second District
Zev Yaroslavsky – Third District	Don Knabe – Fourth District
Michael D. Antonovich – Fifth District	

County of Los Angeles Beach Commission

Clare Bronowski	Thomas Barnes	Ronald D. Chatman
Rosi Dagit	Gary R. Dimkich	Walt Dougher
Don Doyle	Dee Hardison	Charles Hayes
Martha Hertzberg	Leah J. Jeffries	Jeffrey D. Jennings, Vice Chair
Catherine Shea McCurdy	Charles Milam	Phil Pennington, Chair
Norma Pratt	Don C. Rohrer	Hal Ross
Andrew R. Stern	Carole B. Stevens	Marilyn White

City of Los Angeles Recreation and Parks Commission

Mike Roos – President	Christopher C. Pak – Vice President
Christopher W. Hammond	Christina Sanchez-Camino
Lisa Specht	

County of Los Angeles Department of Beaches and Harbors

Stan Wisniewski – Director	Kerry Gottlieb – Chief Deputy Director
Roger Moliere, Deputy Director	Joseph Chesler, AICP – Chief of Planning
Dusty Crane, Chief, Community & Mktg Services	Gregory Woodell – Planning Specialist
Stacy Smith, W.A.T.E.R. Program Coordinator	